

SAFETY ALERT



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF:

AFZX-SA

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, JOINT READINESS TRAINING CENTER AND FORT POLK
6661 WARRIOR TRAIL, BUILDING 350
FORT POLK, LOUISIANA 71459-5339



JUN 27 2005

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Accident Involving Three Military Vehicles -- Safety Alert 05-13

1. Recently, six Soldiers were involved in an accident involving three military vehicles while participating in convoy training under dusty conditions. The vehicles were a HMMWV, HEMMT fueler, and a 5-ton truck. The HEMMT stopped and was rear-ended by the 5-ton. The 5-ton was then rear-ended by the HMMWV. All injuries were minor. The Soldiers were wearing ballistic helmets.


2. **What were the mistakes?**

- a. Driving too fast and following too close for the conditions.
- b. Over confidence in the drivers' abilities and inattentiveness.
- c. Seat belts were not used.

3. **Lessons Learned:**

- a. Drivers must ensure that they operate their vehicles at the appropriate speeds for all environmental conditions.
 - b. Drivers must ensure they maintain the proper interval between vehicles.
 - c. Drivers must practice STOPP principles (Stop, Think, Observe, Plan, and Proceed safely).
 - d. Occupants of vehicles will use seat belts. The senior occupants will verify use of seat belts.
4. Leaders must emphasize safe driving operations during convoy safety briefings.

**ENSURE WIDEST DISSEMINATION, BRIEF TO ALL SOLDIERS, AND POST ON
BULLETIN BOARDS!**


MICHAEL D. BARBERO
Brigadier General, USA
Commanding

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